E-Commerce Business

4477. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMAITON TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been growing E-commerce business in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have been earning any revenue through E-commerce; and

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) E-commerce transactions are not taxable at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Assessment of Impact On IT

†4478.   SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
          DR. D. MASTHAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any action to assess impact on the Information Technology industry of India after USA's proposal to make deduction in the Information Technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assessment of impact on the Information Technology industry as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) The Government has been in close touch with the IT Software Industry Associations, prominent Indian Software Companies, the Embassy of India in the

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

US and leading experts in the field to make an assessment of the impact of the slow down in the US economy on the Information Technology Industry. While there is general agreement that the slow down in the US economy is having an adverse impact on the Indian Software Industry, there are different opinions about the extent of the decline in business and the duration for which this decline will continue. The principal impact being faced by the Indian Software Sector is increased pressure on margins. A solution for dealing with the situation that has found favour with industry is making pro-active efforts to develop and exploit markets in countries such as Germany, France, Italy, Australia, Japan etc. The Ministry of Information Technology has cooperation agreement with these countries which provide for exploring opportunities to develop bilateral trade and efforts have been mounted to enable Indian Companies to explore these markets more fully.

Export of Software

4479. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken all the necessary steps to boost up the export of software;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the achievements made in this regard during the last three years, till date, year-wise; and

(c) the details of the projection made/being made by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Government has taken a number of steps to boost the export of software. The details of the steps taken and the achievements made during the last three years (year-wise) are given in Statement-I. (*See* below)

(c) Government has projected an export target of US $ 50 billion worth of software export to be achieved by the year 2008, out of an estimated production of US $ 87 billion. The details are given in Statement II.